

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/748,487

Examiner

Walter F. Briney III

Applicant(s)

BINGEL ET AL.

Art Unit

2646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 27 October 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 12-14 and 18-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

For claim 14, delete the text "(Previously Presented)" in line 1 of the claim and replace with the text "(Currently Amended)".

For claim 21, delete the text "(Previously Presented)" in line 1 of the claim and replace with the text "(Currently Amended)".

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. **Claims 1-5, 12-14 and 18-29 are allowed.**

Claim 1 is limited to "a system for attenuating leakage signals in a communication system." Claim 5 has been currently amended such that the previous "plurality of communication connections" are more specifically defined as a "a plurality of subscriber loops." While Nakano discloses general "connections," Nakano is clearly not

directed towards more than one subscriber loop. Instead Nakano includes a single subscriber loop input to NTE (6). Thus, claim 5 is allowable over Nakano.

Claims 2-4, 12-14, 18-20 and 23 are dependent on claim 1, and thus, are allowable over Nakano for at least the same reasons.

Claim 5 is limited to “a method for shunting leakage signals in a communication system.” Claim 5 has been currently amended such that the previous “tip connection and ring connection” are more specifically defined as a “tip and ring connection in a plurality of subscriber loops.” As Nakano is clearly not directed towards more than one subscriber loop, claim 5 is allowable over Nakano.

Claims 24-26 and 29 are dependent on claim 5, and thus, are allowable over Nakano for at least the same reasons.

Claim 21 is limited to “a system for shunting leakage signals in a communication system.” Claim 21 has been currently amended such that the previous “tip connection and ring connection” are more specifically defined as a “tip and ring connection in a plurality of subscriber loops.” As Nakano is clearly not directed towards more than one subscriber loop, claim 21 is allowable over Nakano.

Claims 22, 27 and 28 are dependent on claim 21, and thus, are allowable over Nakano for at least the same reasons.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter F. Briney III whose telephone number is 571-272-7513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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